

CONSTITUTION

— OF THE —

SOCIETY OF



Organized

December 2, 1865

California * Volunteers.

* SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. *

AMENDED AND ADOPTED AUGUST 25, 1893.

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CONSTITUTION

— OF THE —

Society of California Volunteers.

P R E A M B L E .

WE, the undersigned, having been California Volunteers in the service of the United States during the late Rebellion, and deeming it honorable and worthy of commemoration to have served our country in its hour of peril, and being desirous of perpetuating the friendships and ties engendered during that period, and of cultivating social intercourse in the future, do form ourselves into an Association, and adopt the following Constitution :

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This organization shall be known as the SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEERS.

ARTICLE II.—OFFICERS.

Its Officers shall consist of a President, 1st and 2d Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer.

ARTICLE III.—BOARD OF MANAGERS.

The Officers shall together constitute a "Board of Managers," which shall have sole control and supervision of the affairs of the Society, subject only to the provisions of this Constitution, and such by-laws and resolutions as may be from time to time adopted.

ARTICLE IV.—MEMBERSHIP.

The following persons may be admitted as members :

SECTION I. All officers and enlisted men who were mustered into service in the State of California; all officers and enlisted men of the First Washington Territory Infantry, whose companies were recruited in California; and all officers and enlisted men of the Second Massachusetts Cavalry, who entered the service as citizens of California, each of whom shall have received honorable discharge.

SEC. 2. All who were citizens of California at the outbreak of the Rebellion, and held commissions in the Army or Navy of the United States during the War, or any of the above being still in the United States service, or honorably discharged therefrom.

SEC. 3. The eldest sons (who have arrived at their majority) of members, and of those eligible to membership—other than Honorary Members.

SEC. 4. The Society may elect as an "Honorary Member" any person who may have been an officer in the Military or Naval service of the United States during the War of the Rebellion.

ARTICLE V.—ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. Every application for membership must be made on blanks furnished by the Corresponding Secretary, which shall be signed by the applicant, and be recommended in writing by three members, at least one of whom will further vouch by letter for the candidate's worthiness. The application must be accompanied by an admission fee of not less than \$2.50, which will be refunded in case of non-election.

SEC. 2. The name, address and military record of every applicant for membership, together with the

names of the members recommending him, shall be published in a circular and be referred to a standing Committee of Investigation, consisting of three members, to be appointed at the annual meeting to serve for one year, which committee shall report in writing at the next stated meeting. Upon the reading of the report the President shall formally request any member who has any objection thereto, or reasons against the election of the applicant, to state the same if he so desires. Each member present shall be entitled to one vote, and if not more than two ballots be cast against the applicant he shall be declared elected.

SEC. 3. An application for membership may be withdrawn before report thereon, or after favorable report and before ballot; but if the report be unfavorable, the candidate must be balloted for. Whenever the Committee of Investigation deem it necessary, it can ask for and shall receive further time to make its report, without debate.

ARTICLE VI.—MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. There shall be an annual meeting held on the 25th day of April, that being the anniversary of the day upon which Brigadier-General Edwin V. Sumner, U. S. A., assumed command of the Department of the Pacific in 1861—an event to be remembered as rescuing

the State from impending treason and civil war. At such meeting, the annual reports will be made, and the election of Officers held.

There shall also be quarterly meetings, to take place on the 25th of July, October, and January, for the transaction of such business as may properly be brought before them.

Should the date of the annual or quarterly meetings fall on Sunday, said meeting will be held the day following.

SEC. 2. The Board of Managers may call special meetings of the Society whenever it may deem necessary, and shall call such meetings at the written request of any five members.

SEC. 3. Ten members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Society.

SEC. 4. The meetings shall be held in the City of San Francisco, California.

ARTICLE VII.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

SECTION I. The Officers shall be elected by written ballot, and in no other manner, and will hold their respective offices for one year and until their successors are elected and installed; a plurality of the votes of those present being necessary for a choice.

SEC. 2. In case, from any cause whatever, a vacancy shall occur, such vacancy may be filled by the Board of Managers, until the next annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.—DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1. The duties of Officers shall be as customary in organized associations, together with such as are specified in this Constitution, and sections of this article.

SEC. 2. The Board of Managers shall, before each meeting, convene for the purpose of making suitable arrangements, such as providing a place for assembling, arranging a literary programme, and attending to such other matters as may give interest to the meeting.

SEC. 3. The Corresponding Secretary shall give proper notice of time and place of meetings; shall notify the members of any by-law or resolution adopted, when so directed by a vote of the members present; shall cause to be distributed all circulars and other documents prepared for their information, and shall keep the P. O. address of members, and every change should be reported to him.

SEC. 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep a "Register," and shall enter therein the name

of each member in full, together with the information furnished in his application, including the record of his military history, etc.; and shall have the custody of the Album of the Society, and endeavor to have placed therein the photographs of all members.

ARTICLE IX.—BADGE.

SECTION 1. The Badge shall be a semi-Maltese Cross, with star points between the arms; to be one and five-sixteenths of an inch in diameter; to be made of gold, silver, or other metal, with design as follows: two stands of muskets with an American Flag resting upon them, surmounted with two swords crossed, and a solitary star below, in gold; the flag to be enameled in blue and red—and all on a black ground; to bear the following motto: "*Palmam qui meruit ferat.*" Badge to be worn on the left breast, pendant from a silk ribbon, color of same denoting the arm of service, surmounted by a metal Seal of the State of California attached to the service or name bar pin.

SEC. 2. The badge for eldest sons shall be the same as the above, but pendant from a red, white and blue ribbon, in vertical stripes—to be one and one-half inches long in the clear, and one and one-quarter inches wide.

ARTICLE X.—AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any regular meeting, notice of same having been given at the next preceding meeting, and properly published to the members before action is taken.

SEC. 2. All resolutions and by-laws inconsistent with the provisions of the foregoing Constitution, are hereby annulled.

ARTICLE XI.—DUES.

The dues shall be such as may be fixed at any regular meeting.

ADOPTED AUGUST 25, 1893.



Constitution adopted, December 2, 1865.

Amended, April 25, 1874.

Amended, July 25, 1885.

New Constitution, August 25, 1893.



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CALIFORNIA VOLUNTEERS.

REGULAR MEETINGS IN EACH YEAR.

January 25th—Quarterly.

April 25th—Annual Election—Banquet.

July 25th—Quarterly.

October 25th—Quarterly.

Should any of above dates fall on Sunday, the meeting will be held on the following Monday.

Place of Meeting:—Occidental Hotel.

Time of Meeting:—8 o'clock, P. M.